

CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
AND
THE ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

Preamble

Whereas the mandate conferred on the International Committee of the Red Cross (hereinafter referred to as the "ICRC") by the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977, the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the Resolutions of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent requires it to act on behalf of the victims of armed conflict – whether international or non-international – and of internal disturbances and tensions;

Whereas the purpose of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (hereinafter referred to as "AALCO") is to serve as an advisory body for its member governments in the field of international law and as a forum for Asian African co-operation in legal matters of common concern;

The ICRC and AALCO (hereinafter referred to as "The Parties"), desirous of contributing, within the general framework of the applicable programme of work and resolutions of the ICRC and the Statutes and Statutory Rules of AALCO, to the effective accomplishment of those objectives which they have in common, in the light of their respective responsibilities;

Have agreed upon the following:

Article I

Co-operation and Consultation

The Parties agree to act in close co-operation on legal and other matters of mutual interest, for the purpose of furthering the effective accomplishment of their common objectives. This co-operation may, subject to the foregoing, take several forms, including representation, mutual participation in conferences and meetings as observers, exchange of information and consultation on programmes.

Article II

Reciprocal Contact

1. The ICRC President shall maintain contact with the Secretary General of the AALCO on all matters of mutual interest.
2. The AALCO Secretary General shall maintain contact with the ICRC President on all matters of mutual interest.

Article III

Exchange of Information and Documents

1. Subject to such agreements as may be necessary for the safeguarding of confidential information, the Parties will ensure the prompt exchange of information and documents concerning humanitarian law or any other legal matters of common interest.
2. The Parties agreed to keep each other informed of developments in their respective work which are of mutual interest. Any exchange of information and documents between the ICRC and AALCO will be channeled through the ICRC Regional Delegation in New Delhi.

Article IV

Areas of Co-operation

1. Whenever desirable for the development of their activities in the fields of mutual concern, the Parties may each seek the other's co-operation where it is specially equipped to assist in the development of such activities.
2. The Parties will co-operate in matters of common interest. The co-operation shall take place especially in the following areas:-

- (a) updating information on the laws and regulations relating to humanitarian law, particular with regard to Asia and Africa;
 - (b) conducting periodically seminars, workshops and training programmes on the latest trends concerning the legal evolution of issues relating to humanitarian laws;
 - (c) Any other areas of co-operation deemed to be of common interest to both of the Organizations.
3. Every effort will be made to meet requests for co-operation in a manner to be agreed in such cases as may arise.

Article V

Financial Implications

1. Any financial obligations incurred by the Parties shall be subject to the availability of funds, to the standards, rules and regulations relating to budgetary and financial matters and to the mutual agreement of both Parties.
2. In the event that the co-operation proposed by one of the parties to the other in accordance with this Agreement entails expenditure beyond minor and ordinary expenditures, consultations shall be held between the Parties to determine the availability of resources required, the most equitable way of meeting such expenditure and, if resources are not readily available, the most appropriate ways to obtain the necessary resources.

Article VI

Implementation of the Agreement

The President of ICRC and the Secretary General of AALCO may make the arrangements necessary for ensuring satisfactory implementation of this Agreement.

Article VII

Modification of the Agreement

The present Agreement may be modified by mutual consent expressed in writing. The amendments shall enter into force on the day the amendment has received written approval by both Parties.

Article VIII

Termination of the Agreement

Either party may terminate this Agreement subject to six months' written notice. Should the present Agreement terminate, the obligations previously entered into through projects being implemented under this Agreement, shall not be affected thereby.

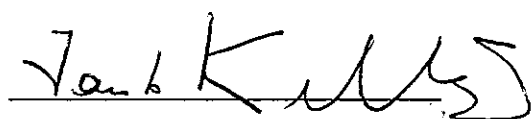
Article IX

Entry into Force

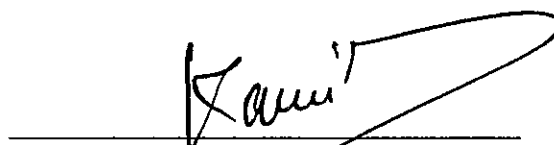
This Agreement will enter finally into force upon signature by the President of ICRC and the Secretary General of AALCO.

For the International Committee
of the Red Cross

For the Asian African Legal Consultative
Organization



Jakob Kellenberger
President



Wafik Zaher Kamil
Secretary General

Place: Geneva
Date: July 7th, 2003

Place: Geneva
Date: July 7th, 2003